

THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 8.

SUBSCRIPTION TO THE EVENING EDITION (Including Postage), PER MONTH, 30c.; PER YEAR, \$3.50.

## THE NOVEMBER RECORD.

Total number of "Worlds" printed during the month of November, 1917.

8,505,840.

AVERAGE PER DAY FOR THE ENTIRE MONTH, 283,528 COPIES.

NOVEMBER CIRCULATION during the past six years compared:

	Monthly Total.	Daily Average.
1917.....	8,505,840	283,528
1916.....	8,465,861	274,689
1915.....	8,461,670	274,585
1914.....	8,465,834	274,585
1913.....	8,465,834	274,585
1912.....	8,465,834	274,585
1911.....	8,465,834	274,585
1910.....	8,465,834	274,585

## OPEN TO ALL.

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## ADVERTISING RATES.

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The rates for advertising in the Daily World do not apply to the Evening World. For the rates of that paper, see the Evening Edition.

## THE DANGER IS HERE.

The defenders of the war tariff now undertake to belittle the surplus and to represent the possibility of a deficiency in the near future.

Neither lying nor blinking will alter facts. Secretary FAIRCHILD shows that "each year for twenty-two years there has been a surplus—the least, \$2,344,000 in 1874; the greatest, \$145,543,000 in 1892." The total surplus in this time has been nearly \$1,500,000,000. The surplus last year was \$108,000,000. The surplus for the current year will be \$140,000,000.

Heretofore the excess has been applied to reducing the debt. This channel of outlet was closed last July. The danger of accumulation is upon us.

Off with the superfluous war taxes!

## MR. BLAINE'S IDEAS.

Mr. BLAINE puts the cart before the horse in saying that the President favors the retention of the internal taxes "in order that the tariff may be forced down below the fair revenue standard."

The President would retain the remnant of the internal taxes in order that the necessities of the people may be relieved of war duties that are no longer required either for protection or revenue.

The reduction proposed by the President would leave the tariff higher than it was in 1892.

We agree with Mr. BLAINE that the internal tax on tobacco should be repealed. This compromise will doubtless be a part of any bill framed to pass.

Mr. BLAINE's adherence to his old idea of distributing the surplus among the States shows an unexpected streak of Bourbonism in him. The surplus is to be stopped, not scattered.

## A BULWARK OF MONOPOLIES.

What are "trusts" for? To crush competition and raise prices.

What makes "trusts" possible in this country? The altitudinous war tariff.

What is the limit of their extortion? The self-same "vicious" tariff. The higher the tax on foreign importations the more secure and more profitable the monopolies.

A blow at the war tariff is a blow at the "trusts."

## POSTAL TELEGRAPH POSSIBILITIES.

The logic of events certainly favors the postal telegraph. It involves no new principle. From mail to telegraph is simply a scientific progression in method and not a change of function.

Private enterprise would never have given us the two-cent postage. Monopoly will never bring cheap telegraphy. For a sixpence the English Government system sends ten words to any part of the British Isles. Ten cents ought to carry a similar message to any part of this country.

Telegraphy is in the infancy of its usefulness. Low and uniform rates would multiply the business of the wires.

Put the civil service on the right basis, and the postal telegraph will be a good thing to talk about.

## COAST AND WORTH.

When it comes to a question of "worth," there is no doubt that any good newspaper is worth five cents, and an exceptionally good one, like THE WORLD, a dime.

The Sunday WORLD is well "worth" \$1. It contains more and better reading than a great many books that sell for that sum.

And yet if a good newspaper can be produced and sold at a profit for two cents, or three cents on Sunday, why shouldn't the public have the benefit of the cheapness warranted by an enormous circulation?

It is cost and not worth that fixes prices.

## IT HAS BEEN TOUCHED.

A feeble plaint is raised by an Old World journal, at the fall of the Democratic procession, to have "the internal revenue touched first."

It has been backed and pruned until only

two articles are taxed under it—tobacco and spirits. At its height, the internal system taxed nearly everything movable in the country. It produced at its maximum \$309,000,000 a year. Last year it yielded but \$118,000,000. But the tariff is within 1 point of the highest war average. It produced last year over \$30,000,000 more than at the close of the war.

Tax luxuries and exempt necessities is the sound Democratic doctrine laid down by the President.

## "THE WORLD" MOVES ON.

The "World" moves on again—this time on to Washington. A small army of its alert reporters laid siege to Congress. And it captured what it was after—4, e., the opinions of the members on the tariff and Presidential questions.

Some significant facts were developed. The Democrats who expressed themselves were almost a unit in favor of the President's recommendations. A reasonable compromise measure would probably solidify the Democratic side of the House. More Republicans favored than Democrats opposed CLEVELAND'S ideas. The outlook for tariff reform decidedly brightens.

But as for Mr. BLAINE, well—a day it looks like a political eclipse. Only twenty-five BLAINE Republicans could be found. Some forty were discreetly non-committal; seventeen were for the Convention's nominee.

The "World" moves on, and radiates a good deal of interesting information as it proceeds.

## TWICE COURTED.

The Chicago girl who has been twice wooed and won by the same lover, because of a loss of all memory of the first wooing occasioned by a serious illness, has had a unique experience.

A great many girls are twice courted and won by the same wooer, but it is only a lover's quarrel that intervenes. No well-conditioned young woman ever forgets her first wooing without the help of a memory-obliterating illness.

It is not recorded that the Chicago young man objected to doing his work over again.

## OUT THE TELEPHONE RATES.

The extortionate nature of the Bell monopoly is very apparent from the statistics of the telephone business, published for the first time in THE WORLD this morning.

Out of aggregate earnings of \$10,883,800, the subsidiary companies receive only 7.56 per cent. on their alleged capital. The parent company, charging \$14 rent on every one of the 341,670 instruments in use, takes the lion's share of the profits.

Protection to a patentee does not justify extortion. The Legislatures have the right to reduce telephone charges to a reasonable basis, and they should do so. The Bell people should be satisfied with a fraction of their present enormous income.

## EXTORTION NOT PROTECTION.

When Mr. BLAINE has read the full text of the President's message he will see that he has done Mr. CLEVELAND an injustice.

The President does not object to "permitting protection to result freely as an incident to revenue duties." He expressly says that the tariff system "must be continued," and that in its readjustment "the interests of American labor should be carefully considered, as well as the preservation of our manufactures," though "this may be called protection or by any other name."

It is not incidental protection, but intentional and direct extortion from the taxpayers to which the tariff reformers object.

It is stated in the Sun that PETER MITCHELL, "late of SHARP'S counsel," has been "mentioned" in connection with an Assistant District Attorneyship, and that "the knowing ones say his chances are good." JACOB SHARP'S chances are generally believed to be likewise good—for keeping his liberty.

The man who stole an umbrella from a pedestrian in City Hall Park the other day "will be back" in five years. By Recorder SMITH'S direction he spends the interval in Sing Sing.

The President recommends just what the National Conventions of both parties solemnly pledged themselves to do, and forthwith the entire Republican press begins to howl that he has invited blue ruin upon the country.

"There are worse things than a surplus," says a journal that is filled with inward rage at the President's Message. Yes, a war tax prolonged in the interest of monopolies is worse than the surplus that it produces.

"No one who dislikes to pay customs duties is compelled to do so," says a war-tariff organ. No, he can go to jail for smuggling. But how about sugar? Can he get that of any home monopoly?

THE WORLD naturally recognizes enterprise when it sees it, and it cheerfully concedes that the Tribune's interview with Mr. BLAINE on the President's message was an admirable stroke of work.

Mr. BLAINE'S idea that "whiskey should pay for coast defenses" will rank him as a temperance man among distillers and a saloonkeeper among the prohibitionists.

THE WORLD'S regiment of reporters captured Washington, though other regiments have failed. The pencil is mightier than the bayonet.

As a matter of cold fact, every reduction of the tariff made since the war has been followed by a reduction in the revenue from customs.

The Supreme Court has declared prohibition to be constitutional. But even the Supreme Court cannot make prohibition possible.

If anything less than a 47 per cent. tariff be "free trade," this country is going in for some freedom.

## NO FUN TO BE A CZAR.

Bill Nye's Dissertation on Some Obvious Discomforts of Royalty.

If anything could reconcile the average American boy to the fact that he is not a Czar, it would be the last story of Mr. Strakosch to the effect that His Imperial Majesty once, when Czarowitch, played a French obligato to the song given by Mme. Nilsson, and that years after, when he had become a free citizen, Czar, the one who affected him to tears, for it brought back the memory of that blessed time when he did not have to put on a sheet-iron overcoat to go out and get the morning paper.

Happier indeed was a great man, with his French horn and his portfolio as Czarowitch, living from morn to morn, than in after years as a thirty-second degree Czar with a mighty Empire under his thumb and a fractious bomb under his throne. Greatness brings with it newspaper criticism, loss of appetite, jaundice, cold feet and death. And even in death a great man does not stand much of a chance. Belle-bunters come and try to break into his grave and carry fragments of his system away to remember him by, and the historian criticizes him to his heart's content.

For this reason we ought to appreciate a country where we need not be great if we would rather not. A Czar really has no alternative. He can avoid being a Czar by beginning in time, but when he does, he is a Czar, and he must be a Czar to the end. John, as the Russians have it, here the rules are less severe. A man may cease greatness for years and years. He may be President of the United States to-day and promising little to-morrow.

The utmost latitude is given to an American. He can not only abstain from being great, but after he has been great, our people will excuse a man and allow him to insert himself into obscurity again in case he feels more comfortable that way. But a Czar has no chance. He really has no fun at all. As soon as he discovers that his lineage is high he is open to criticism, and cannot do anything undignified.

A Czar who would play shortstop in a picked nine or go about the country delivering a humorous lecture, would be ostracized. Many a long, hot summer day he has to stay on a big red throne and reign while mediocre men go fishing. Just as he thinks he is alone and takes off his hot, ermine-trimmed robes, thinking that he will sit in his shirt sleeves and play a few straws on a French horn, a courier comes in and, making a low obeisance, states that he has a ukase which ought to be issued in time to catch the 3 o'clock mail.

Then it is disagreeable for a man to be a Czar and suddenly find himself the parent of a Grand Duke whom he does not exactly feel at liberty to spank! No man really wants to spank a Grand Duke, no matter how little he is. As Americans, we do not fully appreciate the blessings of freedom which are denied to a Czar. Czarism also has a pretty hard row to hoe, to use an Americanism. They have to meet all the social demands that are made upon them and entertain neighboring potentates, see that they have hot water and clean towels in their rooms while visiting at their houses, and show them the best places to trade while in the city. They also have to have general oversight of the children, so that their distracted country will not run short of a monarch.

It is no uncommon thing for a Czar to say to a visiting dynasty: "Excuse me a moment, your Royal Altitudo; His Nibs the Grand Duke has just informed me that Her Imperial Majesty the Grand Duchess, his sister, has got a Lima bean up her nose."

## WORLDLINGS.

The Washoe Indians held a grand council near Reno, Nev., recently and passed a law making their punishable by death.

A physician of Quincy, Ill., has secured a piece of Anarchist Ling's jawbone and placed it on exhibition for the benefit of the curious.

George Dahm, a child of eight years living in Columbus, Ind., was bitten by a rat last September, and has since had many symptoms of hydrophobia.

One of the allegations in a suit for divorce brought by a Jeffersonville (Ind.) wife of a year is that her husband failed to keep his promise to buy her a silk dress.

A great deposit of gypsum recently discovered in Humboldt County, Neb., has been sold to a syndicate of English capitalists for \$150,000. It is estimated that it will yield 10,000,000 tons.

Daniel Hutto, a planter, of Crawford County, Ga., reached the age of one hundred years last week and bids fair to live for a quarter of a century to come. He was a gallant soldier in the war of 1815.

A lady of Carmi, Ill., while combing her hair the other evening, accidentally combed the comb into her hair. The comb was of celluloid and dashed into flame like powder, setting fire to her hair and giving her a narrow escape from serious injury.

There is an interesting freak of nature at Marysville, Cal., in the shape of a double-headed cat. The two heads being set on one neck. But Byron, a rival California town, now looks down on Marysville because of its wonderful pig, which has two bodies and one head.

A Kentucky woman who has seven sons, all born on Sunday, has petitioned Gov. Buckner for a pension. She says in her letter that she "Never heard of 7 boys all born on Sunday," and she thinks that such an unexampled feat of maternity should be properly rewarded.

When an express train on the Boston and Lowell Railroad came thundering along near Nashua the other day a tramp named "Joe," who was walking along the road with a companion, called out: "I'm going to board that train if it kills me." He did try to board it, but was thrown to the ground and fatally injured.

A large vault with walls of stone and filled with skeletons of human beings has been discovered in an Indian mound which overlooks the Missouri River from a hill near Jefferson City, Mo. The skeletons are thought to be the remains of the ancient mound-builders, although the remarkable state of preservation in which they are found would indicate that they are of more recent date.

Thomas Wadham, a veteran Northern Pacific engineer, whose death took place recently at Brainerd, Minn., was not only one of the oldest locomotive engineers in the United States but his life was a connecting link between the railroading of Stephenson's time and that of the present day. He was employed in the machine shops at Bismarck when Stephenson's "Rocket" made its successful trip over the Liverpool and Manchester road, and a few years later he had an engine of his own on the Great Western road. He came to America about thirty years ago.

Another Walking Delegate Accused. A warrant is said to be out for the arrest of Walking Delegate Stoup, of the Food Producers' Section of the Central Labor Union, for conspiracy in calling out the waiters employed at Nelson Hall.

The proprietor of the hall refused to sign a contract with his waiters for one year, and thereupon a strike was ordered. This is another phase of the difficulty between the Waiters' Union and the Park and Ballroom Proprietors' Association.

To Succeed Master Workman Quinn. James E. Quinn's rather checked career as Master Workman of District No. 49 is about to close. He has no chance of re-election, and that accounts for the manner in which he has acted of late. There are four candidates for his place, including George W. Dunn, David J. Naughton, J. Shaw and Richard Hawley.

Knights Against Brewers. It is said that the Executive Board of District Assembly 49 has joined the Liquor Dealers' Association of Brooklyn in the attempt to break up the Beer Brewers' Association and boycott Leary & Britton because the latter discharged the oldest

## BLAINE CRIES "FREE TRADE."

HE IS INTERVIEWED IN PARIS ON THE PRESIDENT'S TARIFF POLICY.

The Republican Leader Talks Out All the Old Scarescrows About Pauperizing American Labor and Ruining the Farmer if the War Tariff is Modified—He Would Take the Revenue Tax Off Tobacco and Hear Down Hard on Whiskey—An Issue.

[G. W. Smalley in The Day's Tribune.] PARIS, Dec. 8.—Reading an abstract of the President's message, laid before all Europe this morning, I saw Mr. Blaine and asked him if he would be willing to give his views upon the recommendation of the President in the form of a letter or interview. He preferred an interview, if I would agree to send him an intelligent shorthand reporter, with such questions as should give free scope for an expression of his views. The following is a brief and powerful statement of the result. Mr. Blaine began by saying to the reporter: "I have been reading an abstract of the President's message and have been especially interested in the comments of the London papers. These papers all assume to declare the message is a free-trade manifesto and evidently are anticipating an enlarged market for English fabrics in the United States as a consequence of the President's recommendations. Perhaps that fact stamped the character of the message more clearly than any words of mine could."

"You don't mean actual free trade without duty?" queried the reporter. "No," replied Mr. Blaine. "Nor do the London papers mean that. They simply mean that the President has recommended what in the United States is known as a revenue tariff, rejecting the protective feature as an object and not even permitting protection to result freely as an incident to revenue duties."

"I don't know that I quite comprehend that last point," said the reporter. "Yes," said Mr. Blaine, "that for the first time in the history of the United States the President recommends retaining the internal tax in order that the tariff may be forced down even below the fair revenue standard. He recommends that the tax on tobacco be retained, and that that many millions annually shall be levied on a domestic product which would far better come from a tariff on foreign fabrics."

THE TOBACCO TAX SHOULD BE REPEALED. "You do not mean to imply that you would favor the repeal of the tobacco tax?" "Certainly," I mean just that," said Mr. Blaine. "I should urge that it be done at once, even before the Christmas holidays. It would in the first place bring great relief to growers of tobacco all over the country, and would, moreover, materially lessen the price of the article to consumers. Tobacco to millions of men is a necessity. The President calls it a luxury, but it is a luxury in no other sense than tea and coffee are luxuries. It is well to remember that the luxury of yesterday becomes a necessity of to-day. Watch, if you please, the number of men at work on the farm, in the coal mine, along the railroad, in the iron foundry, or in any calling, and you will find 96 in 100 chewing while they work. After each meal the same proportion seek the solace of a pipe or a cigar. These men not only pay the millions of the tobacco tax, but pay on every plug and every cigar an enhanced price which the tax enables the manufacturer and retailer to impose. The only excuse for such a tax is the actual necessity under which the Government found itself during the war, and the years immediately following. To retain the tax now in order to destroy the protection which would incidentally flow from raising the same amount of money on foreign imports is certainly a most extraordinary policy for our Government."

THE WHISKEY TAX SHOULD BE RETAINED.

"Well, then, Mr. Blaine, would you advise the repeal of the whiskey tax?" "Excuse me a moment," said Mr. Blaine. "I have many considerations than those of financial administration are to be taken into account with regard to whiskey. There is a moral side to it. To cheapen the price of whiskey is to increase its consumption enormously. There would be no sense in urging the reform wrought by high license in many States if the National Government neutralized the good effect by making whiskey within reach of every one at 96 cents a gallon. Whiskey would be everywhere distilled if the surveillance of the Government were withdrawn from the manufacture and illicit sale of such a product. It is not to be prevented even by a policy as rigorous and searching as that with which Russia pursues the Nihilists. It would destroy high license at once in all the States."

WHISKEY SHOULD PAY FOR COAST DEFENSES. "Whiskey has done a vast deal of harm in the United States. I would try to make it do some good. I would use the tax to fortify our cities on the seaboard. In view of the powerful letter addressed to the President by the National Association of Fortifications in the late Mr. Samuel J. Tilden, in 1895, I am amazed that no attention has been paid to the subject by the Democratic Administration. Never before in the history of the world has any government allowed great cities on the seaboard, like New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, New Orleans and San Francisco to remain absolutely defenseless."

IN TIME OF PEACE PREPARE FOR WAR.

"But," said the reporter, "you don't think we are in danger of invasion?" "Certainly not," said Mr. Blaine. "Neither, I presume, did Mr. Tilden when he wrote his remarkable letter. But we should change a remote chance into an absolute impossibility. If our weak and exposed points were strongly fortified. If today we had by any chance even such a war as we had with Mexico our enemy could procure iron-clads in Europe that would menace our great cities with destruction or lay them under contribution."

"You would not our fortifying now possibly look as if we expected war?" "Why should it any more than the fortifications made seventy or eighty years ago by our grandfathers when they guarded themselves against successful attack from the armaments of that day? We don't necessarily expect a burglar because we lock our doors at night, but if by any possibility a burglar comes it contributes vastly to our peace of mind and our sound sleep to feel that he can't get in."

ROCKERS AND FARMERS PAY TOO MUCH TAX.

"But after the fortification should be constructed would you still maintain the tax on whiskey?" "Yes," said Mr. Blaine, "so long as there is whiskey to tax I would tax it, and when the National Government should have no use for the money I would divide the tax among the members of the Federal Union with the specific object of lightening the tax on real estate, the houses and farms of the whole country, and to pay too large a proportion of the total taxes. If ultimately relief could be given in that direction it would, in my judgment, be a wise and beneficent policy. Some honest but misguided friends of temperance have urged that the Government should not use the money derived from the tax on whiskey. My reply is that the tax on whiskey by the Federal Government, with its suppression of all illicit distillation and consequent enhancement of price, has been a powerful device to restrain the manufacture and sale of it beyond the reach of so many. The amount of whiskey consumed in the United States per capita to-day is not more than 40 per cent. of that consumed thirty years ago."

"Besides your general and sweeping opposition to the President's recommendation, have you any further specific objection?" "Yes," answered Mr. Blaine; "I should seriously object to the repeal of the duty on wool. To repeal that duty would be to destroy the industry of the woolen goods and to destroy the industry of the woolen goods and to destroy the industry of the woolen goods."

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break down wool-growing and be dependent on foreign countries for the blanket under which we sleep and the coat that covers our backs, is not a wise policy for the National Government to enforce."

## THE OLD SCENARIO.

"Do you think it the President's recommendation was adopted it would increase our export trade?"

"Possibly in some few articles of peculiar construction it might, but it would increase our import trade tenfold as much in the great staple fabrics, in woolen and cotton goods, in iron, in steel, in all the thousand and one shapes in which they are wrought. How are we to export staple fabrics to the markets of Europe unless we make them cheaper than they do in Europe, and how are we to manufacture them cheaper than they do in Europe, unless we get cheaper labor than they have in Europe?"

"Then you think that the question of labor underlies the whole subject?" "Of course it does," replied Mr. Blaine. "It is, in fact, the entire question. Whenever we can force carpenters, masons, ironworkers and mechanics in every department to work as cheaply and live as poorly in the United States as similar workers in Europe, we can, of course, manufacture just as cheaply as they do in England and France. But I am totally opposed to a policy that would entail such results. To attempt it is equivalent to a social and financial revolution, one that would bring untold distress."

"Yes, but might not the great farming class be benefited by importing articles from Europe instead of buying them at higher prices at home?" "At the moment," answered Mr. Blaine, "you begin to import from Europe more than you export. You workmen from mechanical and manufacturing pursuits. In the same proportion they become tillers of the soil, increasing steadily the agricultural product and decreasing steadily the large home demand which is constantly enlarging as home manufacturers enlarge. That of course, works great injury to the farmer, gutting the market with his products and leading constantly to lower prices."

YES, BUT THE FOREIGN DEMAND FOR FARM PRODUCTS WOULD BE INCREASED IN LIKE RATIO, WOULD IT NOT?" "Even suppose it were," said Mr. Blaine, "how do you know the source from which it will be supplied? The tendency in Russia to-day and in the Asiatic possessions of England is toward a large increase of the grain supply, the grain being raised by the cheapest possible labor. Manufacturing countries will buy their breadstuffs where they can get them cheapest, and the enlarging of the home market for the American farmer home checker or would result in ruin for one of the same value."

His foreign sales are already checked by the great competition abroad. There never was a time when the increase of a large home market was so valuable to him. The best proof is that the farmers are prosperous in proportion to the nearness of manufacturing centers, and a protective tariff tends to spread manufacturers. In Ohio and Indiana, for example, though not classed as manufacturing States, the annual value of fabrics is larger than the annual value of agricultural products."

(At this point Mr. Blaine entered into an explanation of the low tariff of 1846 and its results, claiming that its temporary illuory prosperity was followed by years of depression and distress. "It is remarkable," said Mr. Blaine, "that President Polk recommended the tariff of 1846 on practically the same ground that President Cleveland recommends a similar enactment now, namely, the surplus in the Treasury was menacing the property of the country. History is repeating itself."

WE WOULD MAKE NO CHANGES.

The interview continues: "Do you mean to imply that there should be no reduction of the national revenue?" "No, what I have said implies the reverse. I would reduce it by a prompt repeal of the tobacco tax, and would make here